

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of acquiring a digital license that authorizes rendering of corresponding digital content, the license to be acquired upon a rendering application on a computing device requesting a digital rights management (DRM) system on the computing device for authorization for such rendering based on such license and upon the DRM system notifying the rendering application that such license is not available on the computing device, the method comprising:
 - hosting, by the rendering application, a browser that is initiated by the rendering application, under the control of such rendering application, and viewed within the context of the rendering application;
 - causing, by the rendering application, the browser to navigate to a license server;
 - allowing a user to communicate with the license server by way of the hosted browser to acquire the license;
 - receiving the license from the license server; and
 - shutting down, by the hosting rendering application, the hosted browser upon receiving the license.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 comprising causing the browser to navigate to a license server based on information received by the rendering application from the DRM system.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 comprising receiving information necessary to acquire the license including a site identifier identifying a license server and causing the browser to navigate to the license server based on the site identifier.
4. (Canceled)
5. (Original) The method of claim 1 comprising hosting a browser having pre-defined specifications, and receiving information from the license server designed in accordance with such specifications.
6. (Original) The method of claim 5 comprising hosting a browser having pre-defined view width and view height, and receiving information from the license server designed in accordance with such view width and view height.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1 comprising receiving the license from the license server directly to the DRM system.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising storing the received license in a license store of the DRM system.
9. (Original) The method of claim 1 comprising shutting down the hosted browser upon a user actuation.
10. (Original) The method of claim 1 comprising shutting down the hosted browser upon receiving notification that the license has been received.
11. (Original) The method of claim 10 comprising shutting down the hosted browser upon receiving notification from the DRM system that the license has been received.
12. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising proceeding, by the rendering application, to render the content based on the received license.

13. (Original) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions thereon for performing the method of claim 1.

14. (Currently Amended) A method of acquiring a digital license that authorizes rendering of corresponding digital content, the license to be acquired upon a rendering application on a computing device requesting a digital rights management (DRM) system on the computing device for authorization for such rendering based on such license, the method comprising:

attempting, by the DRM system, to silently acquire the license from a license server without the intervention of a user; and

if the attempt to silently acquire the license fails, allowing a user to attempt to acquire the license from a license server by way of a browser hosted by the rendering application by:

hosting, by the rendering application, a browser that is initiated by the rendering application, under the control of such rendering application, and viewed within the context of the rendering application;

causing, by the rendering application, the browser to navigate to a license server;

allowing a user to communicate with the license server by way of the hosted browser to acquire the license;

receiving the license from the license server; and

shutting down, by the hosting rendering application, the hosted browser upon receiving the license.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Original) The method of claim 14 comprising:

determining, by the DRM system, during the attempted silently license acquisition, that the DRM system does not have available thereto all information required by the license server; and

allowing the user to attempt to acquire the license from a license server by way of a browser hosted by the rendering application.

17. (Original) The method of claim 14 comprising:

determining, by the DRM system, during the attempted silently license acquisition, that the license server does not permit silent license acquisition; and

allowing the user to attempt to acquire the license from a license server by way of a browser hosted by the rendering application.

18. (Original) The method of claim 14 comprising:

determining that the user does not permit silent license acquisition; and

allowing the user to attempt to acquire the license from a license server by way of a browser hosted by the rendering application.

19. (Original) The method of claim 14 comprising:

attempting, by the DRM system, to silently acquire the license from a license server by way of a first site identifier therefor; and

if the attempt to silently acquire the license fails, allowing a user to attempt to acquire the license from a license server by way of a second identifier therefor different from the first identifier.

20. (Original) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions thereon for performing the method of claim 14.

21. (Currently Amended) A method of acquiring a digital license that authorizes rendering of corresponding digital content, the license to be acquired upon a rendering application on a computing device requesting a digital rights management (DRM) system on the computing device for authorization for such rendering based on such license, the method comprising:

attempting, by the DRM system, to silently acquire the license from a license server without the intervention of a user;

receiving, by the rendering application from the DRM system, status information relating to the attempted license acquisition by the DRM system; and

displaying, by the rendering application, the received status information in a status display portion of the rendering application, and

, if the attempt to silently acquire the license fails, allowing a user to attempt to acquire the license from a license server by way of a browser hosted by the rendering application that is initiated by the rendering application, under the control of such rendering application, and viewed within the context of the rendering application.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Original) The method of claim 21 comprising displaying the received status information in the status display portion of the rendering application in at least one of a written and a pictorial form.

24. (Original) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions thereon for performing the method of claim 21.

25. (Currently Amended) A computing device having operating thereon a rendering application for rendering digital content and a digital rights management (DRM) system for authorizing such rendering based on a corresponding digital license, the rendering application and the DRM system for effectuating acquisition of such license upon the rendering application requesting the DRM system for authorization for such rendering based on such license and upon the DRM system notifying the rendering application that such license is not available on the computing device, the rendering application hosting a browser that is initiated by the rendering application, under the control of such rendering application, and viewed within the context of the rendering application, and causing the browser to navigate to a license server to allow a user to communicate with the license server by way of the hosted browser to acquire the license, the rendering application shutting down the hosted browser upon receiving the license from the license server.

26. (Original) The computing device of claim 25 wherein the rendering application causes the browser to navigate to a license server based on information received by the rendering application from the DRM system.

27. (Original) The computing device of claim 25 wherein the rendering application receives information necessary to acquire the license including a site identifier identifying a license server, and causes the browser to navigate to the license server based on the site identifier.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Original) The computing device of claim 25 wherein the rendering application hosts a browser having pre-defined specifications and receives information from the license server designed in accordance with such specifications.

30. (Original) The computing device of claim 29 wherein the rendering application hosts a browser having pre-defined view width and view height, and receives information from the license server designed in accordance with such view width and view height.

31. (Original) The computing device of claim 25 wherein the DRM system receives the license from the license server directly.

32. (Original) The computing device of claim 31 wherein the DRM system stores the received license in a license store of the DRM system.

33. (Original) The computing device of claim 25 wherein the rendering application shuts down the hosted browser upon a user actuation.

34. (Original) The computing device of claim 25 wherein the rendering application shuts down the hosted browser upon receiving notification that the license has been received.

35. (Original) The computing device of claim 34 wherein the rendering application shuts down the hosted browser upon receiving notification from the DRM system that the license has been received.

36. (Original) The computing device of claim 25 wherein the rendering application proceeds to render the content based on the received license.

37. (Original) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions thereon for performing the method of claim 25.

38. (Currently Amended) A computing device having operating thereon a rendering application for rendering digital content and a digital rights management (DRM) system for authorizing such rendering based on a corresponding digital license, the rendering

application and the DRM system for effectuating acquisition of such license upon the rendering application requesting the DRM system for authorization for such rendering based on such license and upon the DRM system determining that such license is not available on the computing device, the DRM system attempting to silently acquire the license from a license server without the intervention of a user, and, if the attempt to silently acquire the license fails, ~~the rendering application hosting a browser and allowing a user to attempt to acquire the license from a license server by way of the hosted browser.~~ the rendering application allows a user to attempt to acquire the license from a license server by hosting a browser that is initiated by the rendering application, under the control of such rendering application, and viewed within the context of the rendering application, causing the browser to navigate to a license server, allowing a user to communicate with the license server by way of the hosted browser to acquire the license, and shutting down the hosted browser upon receiving the license from the license server.

39. (Canceled)

40. (Original) The computing device of claim 38 wherein the DRM system determines during the attempted silently license acquisition that the DRM system does not have available thereto all information required by the license server; and the rendering application thereafter allows the user to attempt to acquire the license from a license server by way of a browser hosted by the rendering application.

41. (Original) The computing device of claim 38 wherein the DRM system determines during the attempted silently license acquisition that the license server does not permit silent license acquisition, and the rendering application thereafter allows the

user to attempt to acquire the license from a license server by way of a browser hosted by the rendering application.

42. (Original) The computing device of claim 38 wherein the DRM system determines during the attempted silently license acquisition that the user does not permit silent license acquisition, and the rendering application thereafter allows the user to attempt to acquire the license from a license server by way of a browser hosted by the rendering application.

43. (Original) The computing device of claim 38 wherein the DRM system attempts to silently acquire the license from a license server by way of a first site identifier therefor, and if the attempt to silently acquire the license fails, the rendering application allows a user to attempt to acquire the license from a license server by way of a second identifier therefor different from the first identifier.

44. (Original) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions thereon for performing the method of claim 38.

45. (Currently Amended) A computing device having operating thereon a rendering application for rendering digital content and a digital rights management (DRM) system for authorizing such rendering based on a corresponding digital license, the rendering application and the DRM system for effectuating acquisition of such license upon the rendering application requesting the DRM system for authorization for such rendering based on such license and upon the DRM system determining that such license is not available on the computing device, the DRM system attempting to silently acquire the license from a license server without the intervention of a user, the rendering application receiving from the DRM system status information relating to the attempted license acquisition by the DRM

system and displaying the received status information in a status display portion of the rendering application,

wherein if the attempt to silently acquire the license fails, the rendering application allows a user to attempt to acquire the license from a license server by way of a browser hosted by the rendering application that is initiated by the rendering application, under the control of such rendering application, and viewed within the context of the rendering application.

46. (Canceled)

47. (Original) The computing device of claim 45 wherein the rendering application displays the received status information in the status display portion of the rendering application in at least one of a written and a pictorial form.

48. (Original) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions thereon for performing the method of claim 45.

49. (Currently Amended) A method for a rendering application on a computing device to effectuate acquiring a digital license that authorizes rendering of corresponding digital content, the license to be acquired upon the rendering application requesting a digital rights management (DRM) system on the computing device for authorization for such rendering based on such license and upon the DRM system notifying the rendering application that such license is not available on the computing device, the method comprising:

hosting a browser that is initiated by the rendering application, under the control of such rendering application, and viewed within the context of the rendering application;

causing the browser to navigate to a license server;
allowing a user to communicate with the license server by way of the hosted browser to acquire the license; and
shutting down, by the hosting rendering application, the hosted browser upon reception of the license from the license server.

50. (Original) The method of claim 49 comprising causing the browser to navigate to a license server based on information received by the rendering application from the DRM system.

51. (Original) The method of claim 49 comprising receiving information necessary to acquire the license including a site identifier identifying a license server and causing the browser to navigate to the license server based on the site identifier.

52. (Canceled)

53. (Original) The method of claim 49 comprising hosting a browser having pre-defined specifications, and receiving information from the license server designed in accordance with such specifications.

54. (Original) The method of claim 53 comprising hosting a browser having pre-defined view width and view height, and receiving information from the license server designed in accordance with such view width and view height.

55. (Original) The method of claim 49 comprising shutting down the hosted browser upon a user actuation.

56. (Original) The method of claim 49 comprising shutting down the hosted browser upon receiving notification that the license has been received.

57. (Original) The method of claim 56 comprising shutting down the hosted browser upon receiving notification from the DRM system that the license has been received.

58. (Original) The method of claim 49 further comprising proceeding to render the content based on the received license.

59. (Original) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions thereon for performing the method of claim 49.

60. (Currently Amended) A method for a rendering application on a computing device to effectuate acquiring a digital license that authorizes rendering of corresponding digital content, the license to be acquired upon the rendering application requesting a digital rights management (DRM) system on the computing device for authorization for such rendering based on such license, the method comprising:

allowing the DRM system to attempt to silently acquire the license from a license server without the intervention of a user; and

if the attempt to silently acquire the license fails, allowing a user to attempt to acquire the license from a license server by way of a browser hosted by the rendering application by:

hosting a browser that is initiated by the rendering application, under the control of such rendering application, and viewed within the context of the rendering application;

causing the browser to navigate to a license server;

allowing a user to communicate with the license server by way of the hosted browser to acquire the license; and

shutting down the hosted browser upon reception of the license from the
license server.

61. (Canceled)

62. (Original) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions thereon for performing the method of claim 60.

63. (Currently Amended) A method for a rendering application on a computing device to effectuate acquiring a digital license that authorizes rendering of corresponding digital content, the license to be acquired upon the rendering application requesting a digital rights management (DRM) system on the computing device for authorization for such rendering based on such license, the method comprising:

allowing the DRM system to attempt to silently acquire the license from a license server without the intervention of a user;

receiving from the DRM system status information relating to the attempted license acquisition by the DRM system; and

displaying the received status information in a status display portion of the rendering application, and

if the attempt to silently acquire the license fails, allowing a user to attempt to acquire the license from a license server by way of a browser hosted by the rendering application that is initiated by the rendering application, under the control of such rendering application, and viewed within the context of the rendering application.

64. (Canceled)

65. (Original) The method of claim 63 comprising displaying the received status information in the status display portion of the rendering application in at least one of a written and a pictorial form.

66. (Original) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions thereon for performing the method of claim 63.

67. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions thereon for performing a method of acquiring a digital license that authorizes rendering of corresponding digital content, the license to be acquired upon a rendering application on a computing device requesting a digital rights management (DRM) system on the computing device for authorization for such rendering based on such license, the instructions being organized into modules comprising:

a first module for attempting, by the DRM system, to silently acquire the license from a license server without the intervention of a user; and

a second module for, if the attempt to silently acquire the license fails, allowing a user to attempt to acquire the license from a license server by way of a browser hosted by the rendering application by including:

a first sub-module for hosting, by the rendering application, a browser that is initiated by the rendering application, under the control of such rendering application, and viewed within the context of the rendering application;

a second sub-module for causing, by the rendering application, the browser to navigate to a license server;

a third sub-module for allowing a user to communicate with the license server by way of the hosted browser to acquire the license;

a fourth sub-module for receiving the license from the license server; and
a fifth sub-module for shutting down, by the hosting rendering application, the
hosted browser upon receiving the license.

68. (Canceled)

69. (Original) The medium of claim 67 comprising:

a third module for determining, by the DRM system, during the attempted
silently license acquisition, that the DRM system does not have available thereto all
information required by the license server; and

a fourth module for allowing the user to attempt to acquire the license from a
license server by way of a browser hosted by the rendering application.

70. (Original) The medium of claim 67 comprising:

a third module for determining, by the DRM system, during the attempted
silently license acquisition, that the license server does not permit silent license acquisition;
and

a fourth module for allowing the user to attempt to acquire the license from a
license server by way of a browser hosted by the rendering application.

71. (Original) The medium of claim 67 comprising:

a third module for determining that the user does not permit silent license
acquisition; and

a fourth module for allowing the user to attempt to acquire the license from a
license server by way of a browser hosted by the rendering application.

72. (Original) The medium of claim 67 comprising:

DOCKET NO.: MSFT-0309/150645.1
Application No.: 09/817,167
Office Action Dated: March 12, 2004

**PATENT
REPLY FILED UNDER EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO
37 CFR § 1.116**

a first module for attempting, by the DRM system, to silently acquire the license from a license server by way of a first site identifier therefor; and

a second module for, if the attempt to silently acquire the license fails, allowing a user to attempt to acquire the license from a license server by way of a second identifier therefor different from the first identifier.